

Chen 2000-0373

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. *(currently amended)* A method of providing conference call set-up capabilities using a data network from a communications device without voice network conferencing capabilities for call set-up, the method comprising the steps of:

a) providing voice and data communication paths from voice and data communication networks to an individual's communications device;

b) providing a teleconference platform coupled between said communications device and a teleconference-enabled switch in the voice communication network, the teleconference platform including a network-controlling server for responding to teleconference commands from the data network, translating said data network commands into telephony-based teleconferencing commands and transmitting said telephony-based teleconference commands via the voice communication network to the teleconference-enabled switch; and

c) in response to a teleconference set-up command received at said teleconference platform network-controlling service from said communications device via the data communications network, forwarding the data-to-telephony translated set-up command to the teleconference-enabled switch.

2. *(currently amended)* The method according to claim 1, wherein the method further comprises the steps of:

d) in response to receiving the set-up command at the teleconference-enabled switch, extending outbound calls over the voice communication network to pre-defined conference call participants; and

e) bridging the outbound calls together to form a conference call.  
wherein the step of automatically refreshing each display pane includes the step of:

3. *(currently amended)* The method as defined in claim 1 wherein in performing step b), providing a database of directory listings at the teleconferencing teleconference platform in communication with the network-controlling server, said database including

Chen 2000-0373

individual and group listings of names and telephone numbers to facilitate the selection of participants for a teleconference call.

**4. *cancelled***

**5. *(currently amended)*** The method according to claim 4 1 wherein in performing step b), further providing a web server at the teleconference platform to communicate between the individual's communications device and the network-controlling server.

**6. *(original)*** The method according to claim 1 wherein in performing step b), providing a scheduling element at the teleconference platform for retrieving requested conference call time and listing of participants associated with the teleconference command and scheduling the teleconference call, in response to a teleconference command request received from a remotely-located user.

**7. *(original)*** The method as defined in claim 6 wherein in performing step b), further providing a notification element at the teleconference platform for notifying each participant of the time and date for the conference call.

**8. *(original)*** The method as defined in claim 7 wherein the notification is sent over the data communication network to at least one participant.

**9. *(original)*** The method as defined in claim 8 wherein an email notification is sent.

**10. *(original)*** The method as defined in claim 8 wherein an instant messaging notification is sent.

**11. *(original)*** The method as defined in claim 7 wherein the notification is sent over the voice network to at least one participant.

Chen 2000-0373

12. *(original)* The method as defined in claim 11 wherein a paging notification is sent.

13. *(original)* The method as defined in claim 11 wherein a voicemail notification is sent.

14. *(original)* The method as defined in claim 11 wherein a fax notification is sent.

15. *(currently amended)* A network-based platform for providing teleconference capabilities to remotely-located subscribers via a data network connection, the platform comprising

a network-controlling server for receiving data network-based commands related to teleconference set-up, translating the commands into telecommunications commands and forwarding the telecommunications commands to a teleconference-enabled switch in a voice communication network; and

a web server responsive to teleconference set-up commands received via a data communication network from subscribers and forwarding the set-up commands to the network-controlling server.

16. *(original)* The network-based platform as defined in claim 15 wherein the platform further comprises

a database of directory listings, accessible by subscribers via a data communication network and directly accessible by the web server, to provide telephone listing information to assist in the selection of conference call participants.

17. *(original)* The network-based platform as defined in claim 15 wherein the platform further comprises

a scheduling element for storing requests for conference call dates and times, including a participant listing for each stored request; and

Chen 2000-0373

a notification element for sending a conference call alert to each participant included in the participant listing.

18. *(original)* The network-based platform as defined in claim 17 wherein the scheduling element further includes a response module receptive to return information from participants and modifying information in the participant listing accordingly.

19. *(original)* The network-based platform as defined in claim 15 wherein the network-controlling server comprises a computer/telephony interface (CTI) server.